

Camp snapshot

Population: 18,136 (31/12 2012)

Nationalities: Somalis 99.6%, Ethiopians 0.4%.

Size of camp area: 5 km²

Contextual background

Kambioos is the newest of the five refugee camps in north eastern Kenya, opened in August 2011 to reduce population pressure in Hagadera camp. It was planned for a population of 100,000, but never reached that figure, partly because funding issues, and partly because the Kenyan government did not officially recognise it as a refugee camp. The official recognition was finally given on 11 January 2013, and Kambioos is now foreseen as one of the camps where refugees residing in urban areas in Kenya will be relocated to, in accordance with the government Directive issued in December 2012 calling for the relocation of refugees and asylum-seekers from urban areas to refugee camps.

A relocation of people to Kambioos from the overcrowded outskirts of Hagadera is currently underway, with some 100 families moving per month.

Protection

The deterioration of the security situation has increased the risk for women and girls to become victims of gender based violence (SGBV) while services to protect and respond to their needs are limited. Because there so far has been no regular police presence in the camp due to its unrecognised status, SGBV cases are reported to the police in Hagadera. However, police have been often been unwilling to respond, investigate, or follow up at the camp level. Legal aid services are limited.

Education

There are two primary schools in Kambioos. There is no secondary school in the camp. Primary school enrolment rate is 74% (62% boys). A major challenge is recruitment of qualified teachers as well as the shortage of teaching and learning materials, school uniforms and stationary.

Refugee self-management

The UNHCR Operations Continuity Plan (OCP) aims at empowering refugees to more actively manage the day-to-day aspects of camp life themselves. The camp is organised in blocks with a male and a female chairperson representing each block. The block leaders report to the chairman and chairlady of

the camp. Kambioos leaders were appointed in August 2011. The camp residents have not yet had the opportunity to formally vote for new leaders due to postponement of elections.

Food

There is no food distribution centre in Kambioos but access to food rations is facilitated by IOM which organises transport to Hagadera distribution centre twice a month. WFP provides a general food ration of 560 grammes/person providing 2,165 kcal/day. Targeted complementary food (green grams) is distributed to children under the age of 5 years in order to diversify food options and complement the general food ration. Infant and Young Child Feeding programme is being implemented promoting best IYCF practices such as breastfeeding and optimal complementary feeding. 51 mother-to-mother support groups have been established in the camp. Cooking demonstrations are organized to improve caregivers' skills and knowledge of nutrition, provide practical approach to preferred food and ensure hygiene practices are maintained during food preparation.

Health

There is one primary health facility in the camp, which is below the standard of one health facility per 10,000 residents. There is no hospital in the camp. Clinical cases are referred to the IRC hospital in Hagadera. The health post is usually overcrowded, with minimum consultation times, negatively affecting the quality of services.

Usually, 100% of pregnant women attending antenatal care services are voluntarily tested for HIV.

65% of all deliveries in the camp are attended by skilled personnel in health facilities. Round-the-clock comprehensive emergency obstetrics care services are available.

There are both supplementary and therapeutic feeding programmes in addition to the general food distribution. Children with severe malnutrition are admitted in the stabilisation centre in IRC Hagadera hospital.

Shelter and site planning

The majority of Kambioos residents remain in tents that have a lifespan of 6 to 7 months. Tent replacement is underway, as well as the construction of T-shelters (temporary shelters with a timber structure covered by canvas).

Water and sanitation

There is one operational borehole in Kambioos. In late 2012, a water pipe system to the camp was finalised, which has greatly improved the quantity and quality of water services. Women and children are no longer forced to walk long distances for water. Average water coverage is 23 litres per person per day (global standard 20).

There are 928 latrines in the camp, giving an average of 16 persons per latrine (global standard is maximum 20).

Latrine replacement and solid waste management remain major challenges.

Environment

UNHCR 's vision for Kambioos was to open a model of an eco-friendly refugee camp. In line with this an environmental impact assessment of the proposed site was done in September 2009. Current activities include the establishment of green belts, rearing of tree seedlings, promotion of education and awareness as well as negotiating for land on which to establish garbage dumping sites.

Partners

- Catholic Relief Services (CRS): Water and sanitation (after 01/03 2013), host community projects
- Fafi Integrated Development Association (FAIDA): Environment, household energy, host community projects
- Film Aid International (FAI): Information campaigns, community communication
- International Medical Corps (IMC): Health and nutrition, HIV/AIDS (until 28/02 2013)
- International Organization for Migration (IOM): Transport services for refugees to reach the food distribution centre in Hagadera
- International Rescue Committee (IRC): Health and nutrition, HIV/AIDS (after 01/03 2013)
- Lutheran World Federation (LWF): Camp management, primary education, shelter, persons with specific needs, livelihood
- Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC): Water and sanitation, logistics, warehousing
- Oxfam: Water and sanitation (until 28/02 2013)
- Refugee Consortium Kenya (RCK): Legal assistance, protection monitoring
- Terre des Hommes: Child protection
- UNICEF: Education
- UNOCHA: Humanitarian work coordination
- WFP: Food
- Womankind: SGBV
- World Vision: Host community projects



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